

**Wheathampstead Parish Council
Community Involvement Committee
14 April 2016, 19.30h**

Present	Councillors	L Halford G Clark A Dante D Davies E Habib S Haynes T Reason P Woodhams	Chairman
		Julia Warren	Clerk
		Press	0
		Public	0

4610-16 Apologies & Substitutions

Apologies were received and accepted from Councillors A Brewster, D Johnston and J Shardlow (personal reasons).

4611-16 Public Speaking

None .

4612-16 Specific Declarations of Interest and Dispensations

Councillor Halford declared a personal interest in Minute 4614-16 as treasurer of the WDPS, Councillor Dante in Minute 4619-16 as member of the Wheathampstead Lawn Tennis Club.

4613-16 Minutes of meeting of 14 March 2016

The Chairman proposed and it was agreed that the Minutes of the meeting held on 14 March 2016 be approved.

Resolved To approve the Minutes of the Community Involvement Committee Meeting on 14 March 2016.

4614-16 Wheathampstead and District Preservation Society wild flower project

It was reported that the WDPS had prepared the ground in terms of digging and applying weedkiller. Design and planting details were awaited for approval. It was noted that the late summer rough cut and removal of arisings associated with wild flower meadows should be undertaken earlier given the central location of the flowerbed

Resolved To note the report

4615-16 Crinkle Crankle Garden

It was reported that the SADC conservation officer had requested and been supplied with the text for the information board, the design specification had been sent to 5 garden designers, quotations had been sought for a fence between Moat Cottage and the triangle area now scrub had been removed.

Councillor Woodhams proposed, seconded by Councillor Reason that up to £100 be budgeted for summer bedding for the east crinkle crankle wall.

Resolved

- 1 To note the report.**
- 2 That up to £100 be budgeted for summer bedding for the east crinkle crankle wall.**

4616-16 Bury Green Garden

The chairman proposed, and it was agreed, that the official opening of the Garden be scheduled before 25 May, the end of the Civic year, to allow the current Deputy Mayor of St Albans, Councillor Gill Clark, to be involved.

Resolved **That the official opening of the Garden be scheduled before 25 May.**

4617-16 Station Platform event

It was reported that the George Bernard Shaw carving was in situ, sat in the waiting room at the station platform. An opening event was to be arranged to include celebrating the provision of the new access steps. It was agreed that ideas would be brought to another meeting.

Resolved **To defer to a later meeting**

4618-16 Football update

It was reported that the grass football pitches had been vertidraind, weedkilled and re grassed and a drainage report commissioned (Minute 4572-16). Mr Lynch had offered to refurbish the interior door of the Marford Pavilion. A grant application for goal posts had been submitted to the Football Association.

Resolved **To note the reports**

4619-16 Tennis

No update on Minute 4575-16 had been received, this matter to be deferred.

Resolved **To note the report**

4620-16 Commemorative Footbridge across the River Lea

Further to Minute 4576-16 it was reported that planning approval from SADC and the Environment Agency had been sought. Councillors Reason and Johnston and Mr Pankhurst had visited a similar bridge at Woburn and spoken with the gardener regarding installation. They were very positive.

Resolved To note the report.

4621-16 Queen's 90th birthday celebrations

Further to Minute 4577-16 it was reported that WDPS plans for a Teddy Bears' picnic were progressing well.

Further to Minute 4500-16 a goodwill payment of £210 had been received following the sewage spill in Old Rectory Gardens which overflowed onto Rectory Meadow. The Clerk was thanked for following this up. It was agreed that this windfall be used to fund a permanent memory. Previous ideas to commemorate the Queen's birthday included a tree, this additional money would now fulfil this suggestion

Councillor Woodhams proposed, seconded by Councillor Reason, and it was agreed that up to £210 be spent on a cedar tree to be planted in Rectory Meadow.

Resolved

- 1 To note the reports.**
- 2 That up to £210 be spent on a cedar tree to be planted in Rectory Meadow.**

4622-16 Commemorative bench

Further to Minutes 4578-16 Mr Robley had reported concerns regarding rot in the trunks, the tree carvers wished to examine the trees prior to committing to price. He agreed to bring back a firm costed proposal to the next CI meeting.

Resolved

That a costed report be bought to the next CI meeting to apply to St Albans District Council for £2,500 public art s106 money (reference 5/2005/2284) from the demolition and redevelopment of the Wheathampstead Education Centre to residential use towards this project.

4623-16 Youth report

It was reported that the Meads cubs pack had celebrated its 100th birthday to which the District Commissioner attended. The Group Scout Leader Jan Spragge had retired and was presented with an award. The cubs' centenary chase would take place on 30 April.

In respect of Village Weekend, Top Hat had confirmed participation in the parade.

Resolved To note the report.

4624-16 Memorial Hall Refurbishment

The electrical installation condition reports had been received together with an estimate for remedial works. A separate quotation to remove and rehang curtains in the main hall had been received. The Chairman proposed, and it was agreed, that up to £3000 be approved for remedial electrical works and £1000 for curtain removal and rehangng.

Resolved That up to £3000 be approved for remedial electrical works and £1000 for curtain removal and rehangng.

4625-16 Library relocation

It was reported that Hertfordshire County Council's Cabinet met on 14 March 2016 and approved relocation of Wheathampstead library from the Memorial Hall to the Fire Station. It was understood Wheathampstead Parish Council would, under terms of their lease, receive six months' notice of quitting.

It was noted that the Fire Station was within walking distance of the Memorial Hall and co-locating library and fire services improved the viability of the retained fire station. It was agreed that the Parish Council now consult on potential uses for what would be newly vacated premises in the Memorial Hall. This should be considered holistically with the refurbishment plans. The relocation of the library represented a loss on an income (rental) stream.

Resolved To note Hertfordshire County Council's plans for the relocation of Wheathampstead Library to the Fire Station.

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 21.10h.

Dated this day of 2016

Chairman